

The Colored American

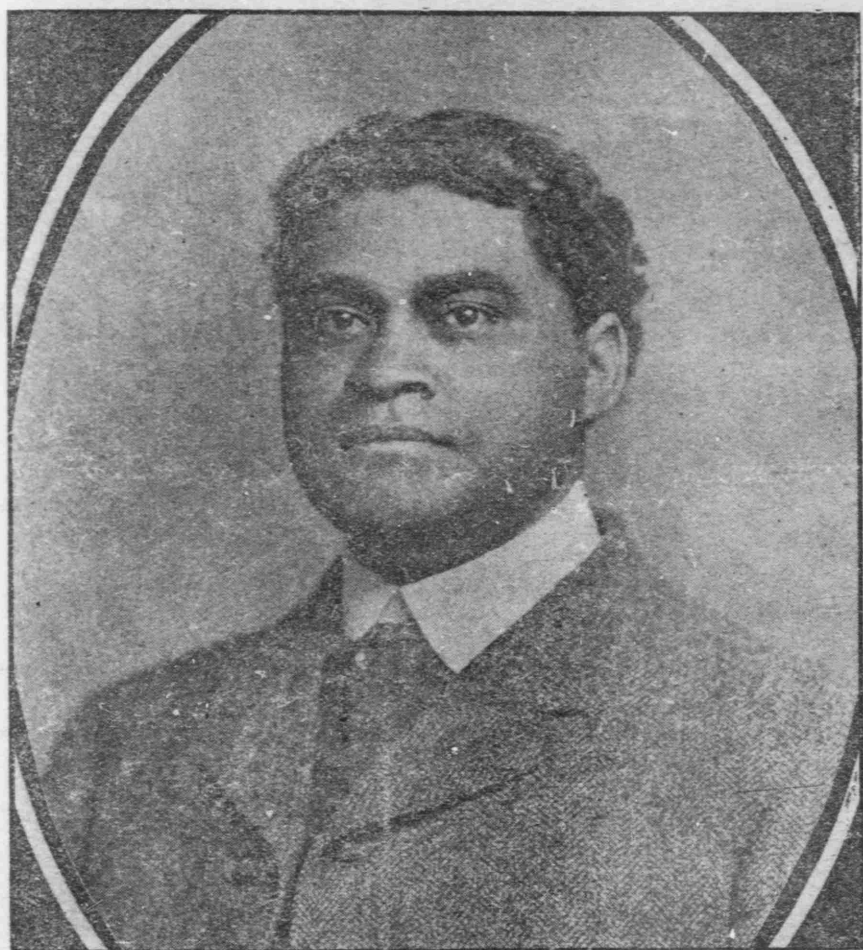
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PROF. H. E. HAGANS,
Principal State Normal School, Goldsboro, N. C.

THE NEW SOUTH AGAIN.

The Race Making Progress in Spite of Oppression.—Type of Young Men Who are Forging to the Fore.—The Career of Prof. H. E. Hagans, Educator, Orator and Scholar.—Points in His Early Life.

Prof. H. E. Hagans, the subject of this sketch, was born of industrious and prosperous parents, near Goldsboro, in Wayne county, N. C., about 35 years ago. His father was the late and lamented Napoleon Hagans, who through industry, economy and practical business tact, acquired right much of this world's goods. With a substantial bank account and owning several farms, good stock and tenant houses, he was easily

rated the wealthiest colored man in his county.

Young Hagans received his first ideas and aspirations for successful farm life under the immediate tutorage of his experienced sire. Mr. Hagans, the father of this subject, being a man of progressive ideas and a true lover of education, spared no pains nor means in affording his boys an opportunity to pursue and complete the most advanced course of learning offered by the institutions of this county. Hence at an early age, young Hagans entered the district school, near his home, and was kept in constant attendance until he had reached the proper age and had acquired sufficient knowledge to enter and advanced class in the Goldsboro Graded School. He rapidly passed on,

entered the preparatory department of Howard University, at Washington, D. C., an institution with which he was first impressed as an ideal Alma Mater, but home pride as well as other considerations soon caused him to change his mind, cast his lot and risk his college training with the faculty of Shaw University, an institution of his native State, and from which he graduated in 1890, with the degree of A. B., and as valedictorian of his class.

After leaving college his first interests and aspirations seemed to centre in the educational work, which as we shall see, received much of his valuable services since that time.

He entered the work as principal of his home school, the first school of his boyhood days; but as his light as an educator shone brighter as the days rolled by, his

stay in such a close confine was destined to be of short duration.

As the result of a competitive examination, which he entered with several others in the fall of 1891, at Danville, Va., he was unanimously elected principle of one of the Graded schools of that city. Not many years afterward, he was called home to take charge of the State Normal School, at Goldsboro, N. C. He was called from this work to the Chair of English in the A. & M. College at Greensboro, N. C. While in this capacity, he attended the Normal School for teachers, at Norwich, Conn., adding new stock to his large store of knowledge.

In consequence of the death of his father, in 1896, Prof. Hagans was forced to abandon the educational work for a while, and as-

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SIR A. W. LLOYD,

Grand Chancellor of Knights of Pythias of Missouri. His Creditable work is commended everywhere.